

SLATER ET AL  
Appl. No. Unassigned  
US National Phase of PCT/GB2003/005262  
June 3, 2005

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please insert the attached abstract after the claims.

## **ABSTRACT**

This invention pertains to certain hypercoiling polymers, and their use for the delivery of a payload into a living cell, e.g., into the nucleus of a living cell, which polymer incorporates, or is otherwise associated with, said payload. The payload may be, for example, a therapeutic payload, such as a drug, etc.; a diagnostic payload, such as a detectable label, such as a fluorophore, etc. In preferred embodiments, the hypercoiling polymers are biocompatible; biodegradable; comprise amide linkages; and/or are pseudo-proteins. The present invention also pertains to certain hypercoiling polymers; certain hypercoiling carrier polymers, which incorporate a payload; and certain hypercoiling carrier polymers, otherwise associated with a payload; which are suitable for use in such methods; and methods of diagnosis, treatment, imaging, etc., using such polymers.